



STATE OF MICHIGAN

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Senator Cropsey & Representative Hummel Applaud Administration's Decision to Recommend Reinstatement of Project Funding for I-127

Announcement Comes After Extensive Discussion and Public Input

LANSING – Following months of deliberation, public input and negotiations, Sen. Alan Cropsey and Rep. Scott Hummel today hailed the agreement between the Republican-controlled Legislature and the Granholm administration which will recommend the restoration of previously deferred funding for the I-127 project.

"This is good news for the residents of Clinton and Gratiot Counties," Cropsey, R-DeWitt, said. "With the growth of mid-Michigan and increasing traffic north, continuing this project is essential. Travel will be safer and more convenient, and life will be a little easier for everyone who uses or lives near I-127."

Earlier this year, Gov. Granholm and the Michigan Department of Transportation announced they were deferring 34 capacity road improvement projects across the state, including a project for I-127, north of St. Johns to Ithaca.

The administration's willingness to include the project came following intense budget negotiations between the Governor and Legislative leadership.

The restoration of road project funding will allow the planning phase of the road improvements on I-127 to continue in 2003.

The project was restored through significant public comment and concern on the I-127 project.

"I am thrilled to see the efforts of the citizens' groups rewarded," Hummel, R-DeWitt. "We have always believed the project to be one of necessity—not optional. Obviously, the administration has grown to see the commitment to complete this road in a new light with a greater understanding of its importance."